

Message

From: Weber, Robert [Weber.Robert@epa.gov]
Sent: 9/17/2020 2:40:52 PM
To: Taylor, Christopher [Taylor.Christopher@epa.gov]; Barnett, Felicia [Barnett.Felicia@epa.gov]
CC: Ford, Robert [Ford.Robert@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: NE Wetcake Project (Ethanol Production Facility in Nebraska)

Chris,

Will it be possible for Felicia and I to get a summary of any action items/deliverables that ORD subject matter experts (Gerardo, Ray, and and/or Michael) have agreed to with Region 7 as part of the September 17 meeting?

Since we're tracking this technical support via ELMS, this will be helpful for us.

At this time, I believe we are considering the September 17 meeting an additional scoping meeting to better understand the support needs and provide input. However, if the ORD SME's provide a final response/deliverable as part of this meeting and no further support is needed or can be provided, we may close out this specific support request in ELMS. This does not mean that future support cannot be requested, it's just part of our process to track timeliness of support.

Or if the ORD SMEs' support will continue for this site, it would be helpful for us to understand what responses/deliverables are being requested and the future due dates for those so that we can track the timeliness of the ongoing support.

Thanks,
Rob

Robert J. Weber

Physical Scientist | Regional Superfund and Technology Liaison (STL)

U.S. EPA | Office of Research and Development

Center for Environmental Solutions & Emergency Response

Technical Support Coordination Division

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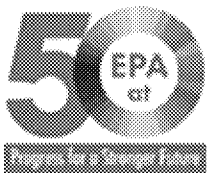
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From: Green, Jamie <Green.Jamie@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2020 11:43 AM
To: Taylor, Christopher <Taylor.Christopher@epa.gov>
Cc: Weber, Robert <Weber.Robert@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NE Wetcake Project

Thanks Chris – This is helpful an appreciated.

Rob – can you share the contacts for ORD and I will add them to the invitation.

I think with respect to their question – I think if we can get them connected to NE so NE can convey more specifics about what they know and are looking for, that should help ORD evaluate what, if any support they could provide.

I think the overall very broad objectives would be to get ORDs assistance to determine what if any options may exist to either:

- Remove and manage the pesticide residues prior to the seed entering the ethanol process
- Mechanisms, if any, that could aid in reducing pesticide residues in the wet cake following the ethanol process to a level that would allow it's land application.

My sense from the last discussion with NE was that biochar wasn't a viable solution but that may also be worth discussing again to be sure.

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I think it would be interesting to know from ORD what additional data/information they may need to help them provide input. They may not know until the call but I suspect we don't have all the information that may be helpful to them.

From: Taylor, Christopher <Taylor.Christopher@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2020 7:17 AM
To: Green, Jamie <Green.Jamie@epa.gov>
Subject: NE Wetcake Project

Jamie –

Hi. I had a conversation yesterday with several ORD scientists who are willing to assist with finding solutions to the NE wetcake issue; Rob Weber facilitated the call. I shared with them the materials we have in hand including the analytical results from the sampling. Their thoughts/questions spanned the entire gambit from how to address disposal of the existing wetcake to reviewing their process to try and pull the pesticides out prior to formation of the wetcake. Specifically they are interested in knowing

- The process used to generate ethanol;
- What they using for feedstock materials (seed corn, feed corn, or a combination of both);
- When this become an issue (is this a relatively new problem or has it likely been this way and was only recently discovered).

They also would like to know if there is a “product” we would like them to do – for example, look at materials and give their impressions, participate in calls, etc. My guess is yes to these at least until we figure out a bit more and determine if there are other things they might be able to provide (apparently this has to do with how they account for their

time/effort). I would recommend adding them to the call on September 17th (Rob can give you their names). I also talked to Doug Jones yesterday about this; apparently the two of you have talked some and he was very helpful in getting me to understand how the pesticides are likely getting in to the process. He is not on the invitation for the call on the 17th – I would recommend adding him as well.

I'm on leave next week, but can talk more the week of Labor Day if you would like.

Chris

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